

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors, principally translation errors. Similarly a new US-style Abstract has been supplied, and clean versions of the drawings have been provided. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

Also transmitted herewith is a PTO-1449 formally making of record the references cited in the Background section of the application and in the International Search Report filed with the original application papers.

Allowable claim 1 has been canceled and replaced with new claim 9 that is of substantially identical scope and that also complies better with US practice and claiming style. More particularly as shown in the drawing, new claim 9 describes a contact arrangement for use on an insulating rod 1 having an upper fastening bore 11 (FIGS. 3 and 4) and a lower fastening bore 12. The arrangement comprises:

a U-shaped contact 2 having a pair of limbs 22 and 23 (FIGS. 8 and 9) each formed with an upper bore 25 and a lower bore 27, the contact 2 being fittable around the rod 1 with the limbs 22 and 23 flanking the rod 1 and the upper and lower bores 25 and 26 of the limbs 22 and 23 aligned with the respective upper and lower bores 1 and 12 of the rod 1;

respective upper and lower contact holders 3 and 4 (FIGS. 1- and 11) each having a pair of mounts 33 and 34 or 43 and 44 flanking the rod 1 and respectively downwardly and upwardly engaging the limbs 22 and 23 of the contact 2, the mounts 33 and 34 of the upper contact holder 3 being formed with bores 37 and 38 aligned with the upper bore 11 of the rod 1 and with the upper bores 25 of the respective limbs 22 and 23 and the mounts 43 and 44 of the lower contact holder 4 being formed with bores 47 and 48 aligned with the lower bore of the rod 1 and the lower bores 26 of the respective limb 22 and 23;

an upper pin 5 extending through the bores 37 and 38 of the mounts 33 and 34 of the upper holder 3, the upper bores 25 of the limbs 22 and 23, and the upper bore 11 of the rod 1; and

a lower pin 6 extending through the bores 47 and 48 of the mounts 43 and 44 of the lower holder 4, the

lower bores 26 of the limbs 22 and 23, and the lower bore 12 of the rod 1.

As stated above, this claim has been carefully drafted both to comply with US claiming practice and to include all the features of now canceled translated claim 1. Thus it is allowable for the same reasons that original claim 1 was allowable.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

K.F. Ross P.C.

/Andrew Wilford/

by: Andrew Wilford, 26,597  
Attorney for Applicant

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5683 Riverdale Avenue Box 900  
Bronx, NY 10471-0900  
Cust. No.: 535  
Tel: 718 884-6600  
Fax: 718 601-1099  
Email: [email@kfrpc.com](mailto:email@kfrpc.com)

Enclosure:      Marked Specification  
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